

The Daily Gazetteer.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29. 1739.

9^o 1305.

TO RALPH FREEMAN, Esq;



I CANNOT help thinking, That if every intelligent Man would run over in his Mind all the extraordinary Events which have happen'd within the Compass of his own Knowledge, and which, if they had not so happen'd, would infallibly have appeared incredible in his Opinion: I say, if every intelligent Man would do this, he is inclin'd to think he would have less Doubts in him than a common Reader in perusing Memoirs, and Secret Histories, wherein all that is marvellous ought not immediately to be concluded Fiction. That appears an odd Thing in ordinary Life, becomes striking and wonderful when related of a Person of superior Rank by a Man of Genius, who knows how to set his Subject in the strongest Light. I have been led to these Observations, by the Remembrance of an Accident which happened to me many Years ago; and which, for all that, I fancy may deserve a place in your Paper. Some Political Discourses I had lately brought it into my Head, and when it was once there, I could not avoid throwing it out upon your Paper. Without further Introduction here it is; receive or reject it as you see Reason.

I went pretty early in the Summer to pass a few Weeks at a Friend's House in the Country: I had not been long there before an unforeseen Accident call'd me to Town for a few Days. I came up in great Hurry, to a Relation's House near St. James's, whom I had written to get me a Lodging for a Week. This Lodging was just cross the Way. It happened that my Predecessor therein was a Wit, a Politician, and a Publick Writer. He was then, I understood, in the Country; but the Closter, either his own or his Landlady's Carelessness, held out Part of his Library, and some of his Manuscripts. I came home pretty early the second Evening, and in her House, and the old Lady very kindly recommended this Closet, as furnish'd with Pills to cure Melancholy. This was her own Phrase; and, by virtue of her Authority, I ventured to amuse myself, by turning over the venerable Utensils of my most ingenious Predecessor.

The first Book I laid my Hands on was the Works of Machiavel, in which its Owner had wrote some Observations, to the following Purport. 'There cannot be a more convenient Book for a Politician than this. It is observ'd by MACHIAVEL, MA-CHIAVEL tells us, We find in the Writings of the famous Politician of Florence; are Phrases that command Attention, raise the Style, and give an Air of Dignity to a Performance. Besides, this Author had the same Sentiments with our Opposition: He look'd one Way and row'd another. He pretended in all his Works to support Authority, and to give Rules for the Conduct of a Prince: Whereas, in Truth, he intended to make Monarchy odious, and to inspire the People with Horror of what he pretended to recommend. From him, therefore, may be learn'd the Art of misrepresenting by false Applause, the true Method of scattering Treason under the Mask of Loyalty; and the happiest Way of glossing the Designs of a Faction by magnifying a Spirit of Liberty. His Remarks upon Lioy enable one to talk very knowingly on the Roman Constitution, without plaguing one's self with Latin; and a Quotation from his Florentine History speaks an Acquaintance with Italian, tho' one knows nothing of the Matter. There is also a Perulancy in his Style, for which the Discontented have a peculiar Taste. This, therefore, ought to be imitated in English, that the present Spirit of Uncertainty may be for ever kept up.'

The next System of Science I examined was a Small Folio, which I found to be SIDNEY'S Discourse on Government; which I perceived our Author had made frequent Use of. In the Beginning I met with this Remark: 'There are in this Work the best Topics for general Declamations against Monarchy, against the Personal Faults of Princes, and the inevitable Flaws in a mix'd or limited Constitu-

tion, that can be desired: Upon proper Occasions, therefore, when either out of Gratitude or Decency the rest of the World may think fit to compliment their Sovereign, one may from hence learn the shortest Method of turning such Addresses into Ridicule, and of making a rational Homage appear in the Light of gross and slavish Idolatry.' At the Bottom of a particular Chapter I found this Note: 'The Noble Author was for Polish Government. He hated Tyranny in a single Person, but not boundless Authority if in the Hands of the Nobles. This, however, ought to be concealed from the People; who ought to be told in general, That Sidney hated what we hate; and that we dislike nothing but what he disliked. By this Means his Authority will do us Honour as a Patriot; and we shall seem, by Reflection, to be as true and as warm Patriots as he.'

Laying this down I took up another, nearly of the same Size, and found it Harrington's Oceana; which, as our Author prudently observ'd, contain'd a Multitude of fair Schemes of New Constitutions, when this Old One should be taken away. 'For this Purpose, continued he, its Matter may be new-moulded, in Order to give it the most popular Form at the Time it shall be used; whereby the Multitude may be perswaded that Power is a Sort of Estate which ought long ago to have come into their own Hands; that their Governors are so many Guardians, who are afraid of seeing their Word at Age, lest they should be call'd to an Account for their Conduct; and that the stale Pretences which stopp'd the Mouths of our Ancestors ought not to bar us, who are a free-born and most knowing People, and may therefore take the same Liberty in dispensing with Civil Laws, that we have long taken with Religious Principles. But to correct such dangerous Doctrines so soon as they shall have answered our Purposes, it will be easy to intimate that however fair such New Schemes may seem in the Diagram, yet they will never answer in Practice. That Harrington himself was a little distracted; and that many Things in his Works are too fine spun to be understood by Folks in their Senses.'

Under this lay a thick Book, with several White Leaves at the Beginning and End. This was a Collection of Marvel's Tracts. 'Andrew, says the ingenious Remarker, was a Man of Mettle. He had to do with the Ministerial Hacks of his Time; and therefore whatever he said of Parker, L'Estrange, Dryden, or the rest of his Antagonists, may be very well apply'd to our present Disputes.' This, I have Reason to believe, was a favourite Observation; because on reading the Author thro' I have met with innumerable quaint Phrases, smart Turns upon Words, low Jokes, arch Stories, and agreeable Comendments, which have been filch'd from thence, and not sparingly scatter'd thro' a certain Voluminous Collection, that is to stand as a perpetual Monument of the Sense and Modesty of the present Opposition.

On a Shelf by themselves I met with a Set of Books, which had been thumb'd till they were in danger of bursting their Bindings. They prov'd to be the Miscellanies of Pope and Swift. The following judicious Criticism was written in the first Leaf: 'An excellent Treasury this of Mob Wits and low Satire: nothing can be better adapted for bringing over Smugglers, Weavers, or Basket-women, than this occasional Incitation of these admirable Phrases. The Poet shows a masterly Knowledge of all the Secrets of Grob-brain, he is peculiarly happy in demolishing his Antagonists, he destroys the Reputation of one by a Libel, the Constitution of another by a Horse Purge, and the Fortune of a third by over-reaching him in his Profession. As for the DIVINE, he too is matchless in his Compostures, which have all the Malice of a Monk, and all the elegant Smut of a Night cellar. A witty Lord was against the Schism Bill, because it was possible this Man might be a Bishop and thereby have the Power of Lice-fing such as were to take Care of Children. We have seen him in a less elevated Station licensing the Political Teachers of a whole People, and they have been hopefully taught; without question he has had greater Success than any Writer in our Way: For his Buffoonry is of such a peculiar Character, that it charms the Great Purgar and the Small, and has every Friend to Laugh-

ter on its Side, from the Peer to the Peasant. 'Tis true, he sometimes borders upon Blasphemy, comes now and then within a Hair's Breadth of Treason, and never sets Pen to Paper without a considerable Dash of Bawdy; but these are small Faults. A celebrated Doctor in Bell-savage Yard used to rid a Man of a slight Infection, by conferring a thorough Pox. On the same Principle our modern Patriots turn the Heads of the People, purely to have the Pleasure of setting them right again. Physick and Policy are mysterious Things, and we had need to be great Men who deal in them.'

The Secret History of Europe struck my Eye next. Our Author had read it, but made no Remarks, only at the End I found a Sort of Index, with this Title: A Calendar of weak Princes and wicked Ministers; and under each Article there were References to other Books of the same Sort, whereby I discovered, that this Gentleman was a great Dealer in Anecdotes, and would take up the Calumnies upon Trust, rather than believe one good Thing of a Man in Power, though vouch'd by twenty credible Historians. Upon considering this Calendar more attentively, I thought I saw Reason to believe it was drawn up for the Use of him who wrote the Short History of Prime Ministers with a pious Apology for Assassination at the End of it; at least it seem'd very probable that the Plan for that History was taken from hence, tho' it might be collected from other Materials, especially from the well-furnish'd Imagination of its Author, where there inhabit more Hydras, Chimeras, and flying Dragons, than would furnish all the Theatres in Europe.

Several Volumes of the State Poems were also in this Collection, and had been read very carefully. At the End of one of the Volumes there was a Memorandum, containing a Comparison between the ancient and modern Satyrists, wherein, as I remember, the Preference was given to the former, and it was frankly acknowledg'd, that tho' the Libellers of the present Age had more Malice, yet they had not half the Wit of those in the last Century. But whether an Observation made by my Author thereupon ought to be accounted just or not, I will not take upon me to determine. He alledges, that this Difference springs from the Difference in the Writers Characters. Lord Dorset, Sir John Denham, Andrew Marvell, and in short, all the State Poets of those Days were Men of Figure and of a liberal Education: Whereas my Author asserts, that Persons of Rank in these Times, tho' they may speak a little, and now and then write a Paper in Prose, yet have they no great Talent for Poetry, but leave it to the Care of such as get Bread by it. By this criminal Indulgence, as he terms it, the old Spirit of Lampooning is quite lost, and whatever we have now produced is no better than a Sort of Rhyning Billingsgate; a Set of coarse Pictures, perhaps, with the Names put under them to prevent Mistakes; a Translation from Horace, with prolix Notes to explain and enforce the Scandal; or an Epistle to a Friend, big with Town Tales and ill grounded Tatle, without Method, or Design save that of getting a Penny and blasting a certain Number of Reputations. He concludes with this Sarcastm: 'In the Days of Charles II. when they cut up a Character, they did it like Surgeons; but in our Days, they go about it like Butchers; then they wanted Pity, but now they are void both of It and Decency; heretofore a good Name fell in the Bed of Honour, but at present it is sent to the Shambles.'

The Works of Lucian I perceived had been little read, and turning them over I found at a Head of a Dialogue this Reflection: 'There is a great deal of true Wit here, but 'tis of too fine a Sort. Our Courtiers are for home spun Goods, and for Jest that don't require the Trouble of Thinking. Immendo is almost out of date, and nothing succeeds so well with us as downright Calling Names. The French indeed have still a Taste for this Sort of Writing; but that's owing to their Constitution. They can, in the Way of Dialogue, call a Minister a Knave by Craft: What's that to Us who, granting we had the best Minister in the World, may call him Knave to his Face, and plead our Freedom of Speech in Bar to any Impeachment of Incivility he might bring against us. The Jokes of Lucian may however be of Use in religious Disputes; it has the Air of Learning to quote a Greek Author; I will therefore make



* a Present of these Books to one of my atheistical Correspondents, in full Satisfaction for the Assistance I have receiv'd from him in my Way.

The last Piece I remember to have engaged my Attention, was, a Set of the *Examiners*; and scarce a Paper amongst them was free from *Annotations*. As at that Time I had never seen these elaborate Performances, so on running them over, tho' but slightly, I plainly discerned that many of them dropt from the same Pen with the celebrated *Dissertation upon Parties*. But I confess I was myself better pleased with these than with that, on account of their having more sprightly Wit, a much more easy Turn, and a larger Mixture of Humour than is discernible in the Author's later Performances. I observed moreover, with inexpressible Pleasure, the same plausible Method of arguing made use of in the *Examiners* and in the *Dissertation*, to support opposite Principles. Bless me! said I, can this Man affirm that *Black is white*, and that *White is black*, without violating Truth? Can he at one time commend *hereditary Right* and *passive Obedience*, and at another, *Revolution Principles* without Restriction, his *Conscience* all the while unviolated? Can he be in one Set of Papers for changing the Constitution in favour of *absolute Power*, and in another Set of Papers for downright *Democracy*, and yet remain a Patriot? By the same Rule, he might pretend to be *Privy Counsellor* to *Royal Kings*, and assume the Honour of serving each, by betraying the other in his Turn. But there are some Men who have Front enough to boast of Innocence after the most flagrant Rogueries, and to expect Credit in the same Proportion wherein they deserved Punishment.

From this Review I remember at the Time I made it, I drew the following Conclusion: That successive Fashions are successively supported by the same Arts; that Power is ever obnoxious to Opposition; and that Truth is ever liable to be counterfeited by Falshood in geniously disguised; that Vice and Folly have their Partizans, who are as zealous in their Cause as the *Votaries to Virtue* are in theirs; that it requires a great Degree of Penetration to distinguish between the pompous Declarations of political Quacks, and the honest Discourses of well-meaning State Physicians; that however difficult this is, it is notwithstanding necessary; and that a Man can no more pretend to common Sense who will suffer his Mind to be poison'd by an Emperick, than he who would trust a Mountebank with his Body. These Thoughts are in your Way, Mr. Freeman, and, if you think them worth your Notice, are at your Service.

I am, S I R,

Your Friend, and constant Reader,
BARTH. BRIDGE.

HOME PORTS.

Deal, Aug 27. Wind S. by W. Remain the Men of War and Merchant Ships as in my last. Arrived the Wager, Raymond, the Nassau, Hutchinson, and the Duke of Cumberland, Webster, all from East India; the Volantier, Balfet, from Monferrat; the Gloucester, Blois, from Nevis; the Addison, Wadge, from Antigua; the Monferrat Merchant, Cooper, and the Charles, Harrimore, from Carolina; the Hunter, Haynes, the Row, Higgins, the Catherine, Bostock, and the Britannia, Boreman, from Jamaica; the Elizabeth, Duce, and the Haslemere, Walker, from Barbados; and the Martha, Elwood, from St. Christophers. A great many more Ships are arriv'd, I shall send their Names as soon as possible. I have deliver'd all Letters for Oporto, Lisbon, and Gibraltar.

Gravesend, Aug. 27. Pass'd by the Henry, Royal, and the Hare, Welland, from Oporto.

Arrived at several Ports.

Off of Dover, the Marquis, Gardner, from Cadiz; the Maynard, Reynolds, from Virginia; the Dispatch, Finney, and the Janet, Crookenden, from Barbados; the Fanny, Virchild, and the Cleaveland, Praed, from St. Christophers; the Segamore, Forbes, from Nevis; the Molineaux, Allen, from Antigua; and the Santry, Fitzpatrick, from Santa Cruz.

At Barbados, the Fanny, Newton, from London and Gibraltar; and the Endeavour, Newton, from London.

Off of Falmouth, the Scarborough, Westcot, from East India.

At Jamaica, the Fanny, Higginson, from London. At St. Christophers, the Queen Elizabeth, King, and the John and Henry, Derby, from London.

The Catherine, Captain Bostock, which is arriv'd from Jamaica, came out in Company with the Price, Capt. Towers, for London, but left her well in the Windward Passage the 24th of June last.

L O N D O N.

Yesterday a Dutch Mail arrived, with these Advices.

The Count de Munich has acquainted the Russian Court of his happy Passage over the Niester; and that as he judg'd the taking of Choczim could be of no very great Advantage, he had left it on the Right, and was marching towards Transilvania.

The Report of a great Battle in Moldavia between the Turks and Russians, is dwindled to a small Action that happen'd on the 22d of July, O. S. wherein the Russians, with the Loss of only 39 Men kill'd, and 112 wounded, forced a Body of Turks and Tartars to retire, with a considerable Loss, towards Choczim. In the Number of their Killed were 2 Bashas, and 2 Agas, besides 1 of the principal Murders of the Tartars.

The Kan of Crim Tartary, upon Advice that General Lascey was approaching with his Army towards the Perecop, has burnt the Country for 14 Leagues round.

A Letter of the 6th inst. O. S. from Peterwaradin, says, That since the Imperialists quitted the Camp at Jabouka, the Turks have been continually at their Heels, and taken their Camps as fast as they quitted them; but tho' much superior in Number, all they have ventur'd has been from Time to Time to harass their Rearguard. That after General Wallis had rested his Troops the 2d and 3d Instant at Czento, he had some Thoughts of passing the Theyffe, in Order to incamp at Titul; but the Count de Neuperg, the Prince of Saxe-Hilburghausen, and several other Generals, having convinc'd him, that it was better to repair the Danube, in Order to draw nearer to the Save, he did so on the 4th, and encamped at Surdock, between Peterwaradin and Semlin, where the General is at Hand to preserve the Communication with Belgrade, and to hinder the Turks from passing the Save. The Grand Vizier, who continues his Preparations for the general Storm of Belgrade, sent several Deputies nevertheless to Count Wallis, to treat of Peace, who on the 3d sent a Courier upon the same Occasion to the Turks Camp, and that Day the Firing on both Sides ceased; but no sooner was that Courier sent back with the Grand Vizier's Answer, than the Fire was renew'd on both Sides. The Turks having ruin'd one Part of the Town, batter the Outworks with Fury, in Order to facilitate their intended Storm: And the Cannon of Belgrade fire with equal Fury on the Batteries of the Turks; and 'tis said that the Aga of the Janisaries approaching too near the Bastion of St. Charles, had his Head shot off by a Ball. If the Turks should succeed in their Storm, the Garison will retire into the Citadel, which is built of Free-stone, flank'd with 12 great Towers lin'd with Fortifications; and upon those Towers are planted above 150 Cannon, which will make the Town too hot for the Turks, if they should happen to take it. Tho' they are in some Degree Masters of a Part of the Danube on the Side of the Town, their Saicks durst not come too near it, for Fear of being sunk by the Artillery of a Fort, which is at one of the Angles of the Citadel, where the Save and the Danube join.

Letters of the 14th from Belgrade confirm the Preparations of the Turks to storm it in several Places at once; and add, that besides the Ladders, a great Number of Sand-bags, Wooll-sacks, &c. are getting ready for that Purpose. They own too, that the Turks Artillery is better serv'd than it has been hitherto; but 'tis far from being a numerous or formidable Train, if what they say be true, that it consists only of 100 Guns of a moderate Bore, 22 Demi-culverins, 30 Mortars, &c. They say, that the Grand Vizier only waits for the Arrival of the Bashas of Bosnia with a Reinforcement to storm the Place, for which he is the more in haste, by reason of the Scarcity of Forage and other Provisions in his Camp, upon which account, 'tis said, 10000 of his Men have already deserted, and that 500 Horse went off in one Body to return home. 'Tis added, that the Damage which the Turks have as yet done to the Works is so inconsiderable, that the Besieged repair in the Night what is done in the Day, and that the Turks have not as yet open'd Trenches, nor dismounted one of their Batteries. It confirms the Death of one of their Agas by a Cannon Ball, with these Circumstances, that as soon as he was shot off of his Horse, a Number of Janisaries came about him, and, after menacing the Town with their naked Swords, there came a fine Litter, on which the dead Body was laid, and carry'd off by the Janisaries with great Demonstrations of Mourning.

The Prince of Nassau Dillenbourg dy'd on the 17th ult. O. S. of an Apoplexy, as he was hunting; whereupon Possession was taken of his Principality or the Prince of Orange: And after the Death of

Prince William Hyacinth, who is at Madrid, the important Succession of the illustrious Family of the fau Catzenellebogen will also devolve entirely to the most Serene Highness, who is the last Branch of that Family.

The Letters from Copenhagen take notice, that the Marquis d'Antin, the French Commodore, is return'd thither with only the Four Men of War and a Frigate that he carry'd with him to the Baltic, which contradicts the Report, that he had been join'd by some Swedish Ships. Yet they write from Stockholm, that Preparations for War are making all over the Kingdom.

'Tis observ'd from Ratisbon, that the Communication of the Emperor's Decree to the Dyet, relating to the definitive Treaty between his Imperial Majesty and France, is put off; and that the Count de Kendorf begins to recover Strength at Gratz.

On Monday last about 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon a sad Accident happen'd at Shadwell-Dock: A light Collier heaving out of the Tier, and holding her Long-boat, one of the Tackles happen'd to hook in the Gunnel, and one of the Men stepping over the Ship's Side in Order to clear it, the Boat gave Way, and took his Head between the Ship's Gunnel and the Boat's Keel, and severed his Head from his Body.

We hear that the Right Hon. the Earl of Cornwall, One of the Sixteen Peers of Scotland, is appointed One of the Lords of His Majesty's Privy Chamber, in the Room of the late Earl of Selkirk deceased.

BANKRUPTS.

John Boulby, of the Parish of St. Paul Cornhill, in the County of Middlesex, China-man.
Ambrose Wafforne, of Thorp Lubenham, in the County of Northampton, Dealer and Chapman.

High Water this Day Morning Evening
at London Bridge. 03 46 06 10

Bank Stock 138 3/4ths. India 153 1/2-half. Sea 93 1/8ths. Old Annuity 108 5/8ths to 3/4ths. New ditto 106 1/2-half to 5/8ths. Three per Cent. 3/4ths. Seven per Cent. Loan 105. Five per Cent. ditto 88 1/4ths. Royal Assurance 89. London Assurance 11 1/4ths. African 13 1/2-half. Bonds 21. 18s Prem. South Sea ditto 11 Prem. Bank Circulation 31. 12s. 6d. Prem. Salt 10 1/2-half to 1 1/2-half Prem. English Copper 1/2 5/8. Welsh ditto 1/2 5/8. Three 1/2-half per Cent. chequer Orders 99 1/2-half. Three per Cent. 95. Million Bank 114 1/2-half. Equivalent 110 1/2-half. Lottery Tickets 51. 8s.

Admiralty-Office, August 1. 1735.
HIS Majesty having been graciously pleas'd, by his Warrant under his Royal Sign Manual, dated the 10th of June 1733, to establish certain Rules and Orders for the better Government of the Charity for the Relief of poor Widows of Commission and Warrant Officers of the Royal Navy: These are to give Notice to all such Widows whose Husbands died on or since the 30th of August 1730, that Copies of the said Rules and Orders are lay'd out at the Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy, at Chatham, Portsmouth, and Plymouth; as also with the Clerks of the Cheque, at Deptford, Woolwich, and Sheerness; and with the Naval Officers at Harwich, Deal, and Kinsale; where they may be inform'd of all Particulars which relate to the Benefit of the said Charity, and receive the proper Certificates for that Purpose. But such Widows as live at too great a Distance from the Places above mention'd, may apply by Letter to Thomas Corbett, Esq; at the Admiralty-Office, who will send them all necessary Information. And the Governors of the said Charity intending to distribute to the Widows of such Sea Officers who died before the 30th of August 1731, and whose Circumstances are within the Rules of the Establishment, their Share of the Bounty granted by Parliament; these are to give Notice of the same to all such Widows, that they may procure the proper Certificates and Affidavits, and send or bring them hither. And the Court of Assistants do hereby give Notice, that they will meet at this Office on Tuesday the 11th of September next, at Eight o'Clock in the Morning, to receive the Claims of such Widows as shall be qualified according to the said Rules and Orders.

Next Week will be publish'd,

(Price, One Shilling)

A DISCOURSE

ON ANCIENT and MODERN LEARNING.

By the late Right Honourable

JOSEPH ADDISON, Esq;

Printed for T. OSBORNE, in Gray's-Inn.

NE. The Original Manuscript, in Mr. Addison's own Hand writing, corrected, and prepared for the Press, may be seen at the above T. Osborne's; where may be had the most Money for any Library, or Parcel of Books and Manuscripts.